

# WEATHER.

Increasing cloudiness tonight, probably followed by rain or snow tomorrow; slowly rising temperature. Temperature for twenty-four hours ended at 2 p. m. today: Highest, 38, at 2:30 p. m. yesterday; lowest, 24, at 7:30 a. m. today. Full report on page 4.

Closing N. Y. Stocks and Bonds, Page 18

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WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1922—TWENTY-FOUR PAGES.

"From Press to Home Within the Hour"  
The Star's carrier system covers every city block and the regular edition is delivered to Washington homes as fast as the papers are printed.

Yesterday's Net Circulation, 88,815

TWO CENTS.

# U. S. AID FOR WORLD ILLS WILL BE EXTENDED ONLY BY REPARATIONS AND VEIL

## Definite Course to Be Pursued Mapped Out.

## VEIL OF SECRECY IS RIPPED ASIDE

## Next Move Is Up to Allied Premiers, Is View.

The veil of secrecy which for weeks has shrouded the administration's attitude toward helping stricken Europe yesterday was torn away by a suddenness which from three separate sources definite statements replaced what heretofore has been confined to slenderly-woven conjectures.

In the Senate, Senator Watson of Indiana, an administration spokesman who speaks with authority, said that "feelings" had been made up by the government to determine whether or not the next move is up to the allied premiers, in an economic conference would be "welcome" in Europe.

At the White House it was stated on the highest authority that President Harding was not now contemplating the calling of a general economic conference, but at present is considering American participation in an economic conference on German reparations.

Next Move Up to Premiers. Addressing a New Haven, Conn., audience last night, Secretary of State Hughes advocated an international commission of financiers, including Americans, which would be called to recommend a method of dealing with the reparations crisis.

This suggestion—which generally was interpreted as reflecting the administration's intentions—was made, the Secretary of State pointed out, in the event that the premiers in their Paris meeting next Tuesday fail to find a basis for adjustment "among themselves."

As a result of Senator Watson's statement Senator Borah of Idaho withdrew his plan for providing for the calling of a general economic conference, and the view generally held is that the next move lies in the hands of the allied premiers.

Secretary Hughes stressed the view that the United States could not look to the allied premiers for a collection with favor on attempted forcible collection was reiterated, by Mr. Hughes in his address, and the financial commission plan put forward as an alternative that would "open hopefully" the way for American helpfulness.

As a first condition of appointment of an economic commission, however, Mr. Hughes specified that the whole question of Germany's capacity to pay and methods of payment must be decided in "a political" sense. He emphasized that the distinguished financiers assigned to recommend not only a financial plan of payment, but also the amount to be paid must be freed of the domination of foreign interests and the security of obligations.

The problem must be squared with economic facts alone, he said, and relieved of all sentimental and political considerations, and counter charges which have blotted recuperation of Europe up to this time.

Air Considerably Cleared. It was this method alone, the Secretary's statements plainly indicated, which in the view of the American government would make possible American economic aid to Europe. He dismissed both proposals for a general economic conference and discussion of allied debt cancellation as impracticable proposals.

Senator Borah's withdrawal of his Navy bill amendment combined to clear the air considerably with regard to the effort of the American government to be helpful in the reparations tangle. It has been the hope of the administration saw no present hope of accomplishing good results through the method proposed by the two-day Senate debate had served, however, to make officials both here and abroad aware of the desire in this country that European help should be given toward making it available.

There was nothing here today to indicate that the American government had it now in mind to take any other initiative than the aid informally, as Mr. Hughes has done, a way in which the allied premiers themselves, the Chamber of Commerce of the United States and the American economic strength in restoring Europe.

Neither the White House nor the State Department would give any definite information as to what attitude the sounding-out process may have developed in European capitals. At the same time, however, there were indications that so far the plan had encountered no actual opposition on the part of any foreign government and that the administration had high hopes of its final acceptance.

So far as Germany is concerned, it has been plainly indicated heretofore that the commission plan would be entirely acceptable. A definite statement to that effect was contained in a cablegram recently received from the German Industrie-und Handelskammer, an organization of German industrial leaders, the Chamber of Commerce of the United States and the American economic strength in restoring Europe.

## Says Berlin Frowns On Stable Finances If Debt Is to Be Paid

By the Associated Press. PARIS, December 30.—France has made an intensive study of the reparations question for the past four years and is convinced that Germany does not want to restore her financial stability if such a step means payment in full of a reasonable war indemnity.

The authoritative, though unofficial, comment on the speech of the American Secretary of State at New Haven last night.

## CABINET APPROVES BONAR LAW'S PLAN, BUT LOOKS TO U. S.

Hughes' Statement May Go Far in Aiding Paris Reparations Conference.

By the Associated Press. LONDON, December 30.—Prime Minister Bonar Law will take to the Paris conference of premiers a complete plan upon which the British cabinet passed judgment yesterday in the hope of obtaining a French agreement for a final settlement of the reparations problem, it was announced in British official quarters today.

Details of Mr. Bonar Law's reparations plan were not available, but it is believed it will set down Germany's total obligations at approximately one-third the Versailles treaty figures. The British desire that the French give Germany a fair trial under the new scheme, which, if it is not productive of the desired results, will be supplemented by French schemes involving coercive methods.

Hughes' Speech Helpful. It was stated in official circles this forenoon that it was believed the speech delivered by Secretary of State Hughes in New Haven last night would be helpful to the Paris conference.

Details of the speech were not very sanguine of the success of the Paris gathering, more especially since it is seen the French government is disposed to take a more active role in the reparations tangle, and the belief is that Germany's timber default only amounts to a matter of about \$100,000,000, which can be paid by cash payment and that, therefore, France is seeking only a method of collection.

The attention of the British public really is much more centered on the outcome of the Paris conference and the growing prospect of the United States taking an active share in Europe's economic difficulties.

Lauds Borah. The Weekly Nation, discussing American developments, says: "Even now the deciding factor at Paris may not be London, but Washington."

Commenting on the proceedings in the Senate at Washington, the Nation thinks it is a great misfortune that Senator Borah has not visited Europe, "for his courage, moral force and his unchallenged sincerity would make him a singularly convincing exponent of American foreign policy."

PARIS LOOKS TO U. S. Hope Still Persists Harding May Tend Aid to Premiers.

By the Associated Press. PARIS, December 30.—Persistent reports that the United States would participate in some form in next week's conference of the interallied premiers have been definitely eliminated.

(Continued on Page 2, Column 3.)

## Voice of U. S. Held to Be Vital In Parleys to Save Europe

By HAL O'LEAHARTY. (By Cable to The Star and Chicago Daily News, Copyright, 1922.)

LONDON, December 30.—Great Britain looks forward to the first weeks of the New Year with the deepest anxiety.

The first month of 1923 must witness decisions of the most fateful character, not only for Great Britain, but for the entire world.

Proceeding simultaneously are three conferences, each of vital importance to the British empire's welfare and holding possibilities that are beyond conception. Britain's prime minister will go to Paris soon to thresh out with France and Italy the matter of German reparations. He is already at Lausanne, where he is facing the obstinate Turks, and with the barest chance of winning them over to a reasonable settlement of the near east problem.

The British chancellor is en route to Washington, where he will attempt to negotiate one of the most delicate problems that international finance has ever presented to the world powers.

If all of the nations involved in this problem take the right turning, another era of prosperity looms on the horizon. But if the wrong road is taken, civilization must falter along

## Senators Favor Plan Outlined by Hughes.

## BORAH BELIEVES IT "FIRST STEP"

## Only Practical Way to Proceed, Say Harding Men.

The plan outlined by Secretary Hughes in his New Haven speech to deal with the economic problems of Europe was the subject of favorable comment by many senators today. Senator Borah of Idaho, Senator Capper of Kansas and others who have supported the Borah plan for an international economic conference took the position that the Hughes suggestion was a step in the right direction and that the proposed conference of economic experts on the question of German reparations eventually would lead to an international economic conference.

"The financial condition today is the most complicated that the world has ever known. If any solution is to be found it can be found only by most highly developed financial minds and not upon the fiat of premiers and those in administrative authority. The world is critically ill in the region of its pocketbook and it would appear to be the part of wisdom to submit its case to the best qualified specialists for advice and treatment."

Senator Borah assumed that the first step toward an adjustment of economic problems, and that it was important to have experts assembled and give their opinions in regard to the problems confronting the world. He said he considered the creation of such a commission would be a step toward a general international economic conference.

Here and there was to be found, however, a senator who did not look with favor on the Hughes suggestion. Senator King of Utah (democrat) insisted it would be far better to have an international economic conference held in the open rather than to have the discussion of these problems to a group which did not officially represent the nation involved. Senator Hiram Johnson of California, who vigorously assailed the Borah proposal on the ground that it would mean the involvement of the United States in European affairs, declined to comment on the administration proposal.

Plan Considered Practical. Administration leaders in the Senate took the position that Secretary Hughes had proposed a really practical method of dealing with the German reparations problem, which they consider at the bottom of the economic ills of the world.

Senator Hiram Johnson of Indiana, a republican member of the foreign relations committee, said: "I am in favor of the plan submitted by Secretary Hughes is the most practical suggestion—in fact, the only practical suggestion—that has been made."

It would have behind it the impelling force of world opinion to insure the acceptance of its recommendations if it were composed of men of high standing, as would be the proposed economic commission, as Mr. Hughes suggested.

Senator Capper, head of the farm bloc, said: "I am in favor of anything practical that will tend to bring about a settlement of the reparations problem. I am in favor of the adoption of the Borah plan, and I believe that the conference on German reparations by economic experts would be beneficial."

"I am sure Secretary Hughes' speech will find a favorable response," he said. "The proposed economic commission offers a sound and practical method of arriving at a fair basis of reparations."

Senator King of Utah, democrat, said: "Secretary Hughes' idea of an economic commission is not new. The German themselves only recently suggested it to the United States Chamber of Commerce."

"In my opinion, the Secretary of State sought to camouflage with foreign fiction the economic problem of Europe."

(Continued on Page 2, Column 1.)



## URGE \$20,000,000 ARMENIAN HOME

## U. S. Delegates at Lausanne Present Plan Calling for United Action.

## SEEK FUNDS IN AMERICA

By the Associated Press. LAUSANNE, December 30.—Plans for an Armenian national home, financed by a possible \$20,000,000 appropriation by the United States Congress or a popular loan in America in addition to funds from other countries, were presented to the near east conference today by the American delegation.

It is suggested in the American plan that the Armenian home be located in Cilicia just north of the Gulf of Alexandretta, in territory containing about 18,000 square miles.

The plan is the work of Dr. George R. Montgomery, director of the Armenia-American Society, who announced he had just received a message from the United States saying a resolution was being introduced in the House of Representatives authorizing President Harding to lend \$20,000,000 for this project. If the resolution is passed, it would be a territorial provision for the home.

Ends Sixth Week. The conference completes its sixth week today with a solution of the near eastern question still in the making and with the allied and Turkish delegations still at odds over the important issues.

As Ismet Pasha and his associates awaited further instructions from their government at Ankara, which they reportedly reported the impasse in the negotiations find themselves, it seemed certain that a settlement of the reparations problem would not take place this year. It is believed that in his report to his government called special attention to the declaration of Lord Curzon that the British government insisted upon recognition of its mandate over the Mosul vilayet.

U. S. Pleads for Refugees. Action by the allies on the Armenian plea for a national home in Turkey was expected today. The subcommittee on minorities, which is wrestling with this difficult problem, listened yesterday to an appeal by the American observers that refugees in Turkey be allowed to return to their native lands and that their property be restored to them.

No progress was made by the subcommittee on minorities, before which the American appeal was presented, when general questions of amnesty were under discussion. The jurists to whom the amnesty clause of the proposed treaty was submitted reported they were unable to agree, as both the Turks and Greeks had interpreted too many contradictory political considerations.

Must Wait Upon Ankara. "Confronted by persistent Turkish objections, the subcommittee voted to drop the British amendment stipulating the appointment of a league of nations representative to supervise Turkey's treatment of minorities."

Apparently Ankara must speak before the Ottoman delegates can make concessions on a device in the peace negotiations.

WAIT PREMIERS' PARLEY. Some of Lausanne Delegation Plan to Go to Paris.

(By cable to The Star and Chicago Daily News, Copyright, 1922.)

LAUSANNE, December 30.—The Lausanne conference is marking time. The delay in making peace seems closely connected with the meeting of the premiers in Paris. The Lausanne conference being involved in Europe's old reparations ailment, it is unlikely that a settlement will be approached before the Paris conversation is underway. Already some of the Lausanne delegates are planning to be in Paris before the negotiations there begin.

It is significant that a session of the first commission on military and territorial questions has not been called since December 20, for this body has in share the difficult questions of the straits and frontiers.

In the subcommittees, on minorities, Friday, Harry Dwight of Washington, D. C. read the following American declaration on amnesty:

## Turkish Troops Are Sent Moving Toward Mosul

By the Associated Press. ATHENS, December 30.—The Turks are sending reinforcements in the direction of Mosul, the rich oil district the ownership of which is in dispute at the Lausanne conference, according to advices to the Central News from a reliable source.

A division of 6,000 Turkish troops, it is stated, has already left Van for Mosul.

## MASSING EVIDENCE IN LAKE MURDERS

## State Ready to Lay Cards on Table in Mer Rouge Case Hearing.

By the Associated Press. BASTROP, La., December 30.—Another day of marking time while awaiting the return of federal and state investigators, who have been in New Orleans and Baton Rouge conferring with Gov. Parker and other state officials, today served only to increase the air of expectancy in troubled Morehouse parish, "scene of the crime" in advance of the opening of the trial in the "Mer Rouge" case.

The Post Office Department expects to wipe out the postal deficit in 1924. It business conditions hold good throughout the country, it was learned today.

Postmaster General Work expects to reduce the postal deficit of \$60,815,400.36 in 1922 to \$31,750,000 during the coming year and to entirely absorb the deficit in 1924. He has made this statement before the hearings on the postal appropriations bill and the entire department is working behind him to make it come true.

The step will be accomplished, if business conditions hold good, without raising the postal rates in any particular, it is expected. It logically follows, according to the officials, that no rates must be reduced, either.

Fast Parcel Post Freight. Fast parcel post freight may be one of the novelties introduced in the effort to cut down the deficit. Handling of parcel post is becoming such a problem that two classes of such postal matter may be drawn up, parcels that may go in cars, much as fast freight, taking their time, and parcels that must receive the swiftest transportation.

Saving of money can be affected by such a step, it is held by some officials, as well as betterment of the parcel post service. Officials feel that efficiency of service more to be desired than a device in the deficit, as desirable as the latter is.

Betterment of the efficiency of the motor vehicle service of the department is another aim of officials, it was learned today.

## \$50,000,000 Work a Year.

Nearly \$50,000,000 worth of work is done by the postal service each year for various government agents without pay, officials stated, this large sum being considered as a normal sort of deficit.

Franking privileges cost the postal service about \$20,000,000. This free matter sent out by Congress and the departments costs the postal service that sum of money to carry and handle.

The postal service constantly uses its men and resources to do work for other branches of the government. Among such work is the aid given the Treasury Department in selling savings certificates, and the aid given the Department of Agriculture in the biennial census, which is done by rural carriers.

## MASSING EVIDENCE IN LAKE MURDERS

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## McKINILL IN BALTIMORE

## Klan Starts Probe to Find Out if He Is a Member.

By the Associated Press. BALTIMORE, December 30.—The state of Maryland today is in a state of excitement over the alleged membership of a prominent Baltimorean in the Ku Klux Klan.

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## RELIEF WORKER WEDS.

Director of Orphanage and U. S. Official Marry in Turkey. CONSTANTINOPLE, December 30.—Miss Katherine Gillespie of New Rochelle, N. Y., director of the Near Eastern Relief Orphanage, and Robert Imbrie of Baltimore, State Department observer at Ankara, were married in the Benedictine chapel yesterday. They began their honeymoon at Ankara, where they first met during the height of the Turco-Greek campaign.

## New Year Calls Suspended Again At White House

There will not be a New Year reception at the White House on Monday.

The White House today officially announced that this popular tradition, which was abandoned by President Wilson and was revived by President Harding last year, would be again discontinued because of Mrs. Harding's illness.

Mrs. Harding several days ago, when the matter was being discussed with her, expressed deep regret because she was not yet strong enough physically to receive with the President on New Year day. She stood at the head of the receiving line last New Year day for more than five hours and personally shook hands with more than 8,000 men, women and children.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Harding enjoyed the Christmas celebration and forward to its repetition this year. New Year day will be observed simply and quietly at the White House. The President, it is understood, will spend the day with Mrs. Harding, and it is expected that a few close friends will call during the day.

## TWO DIE TO SAVE D. C. GIRL IN CRASH

## Miss Elizabeth M. Price and Philadelphia Friend Hurt in New Jersey.

Special Dispatch to The Star. WOODBURY, N. J., December 30.—Two men sacrificed their lives to save two girls in an automobile-train crash at North Woodbury last night. C. Alexander Wray, Jr., and Louis A. Brunner, both twenty-four years of age and most of Philadelphia, died as a result of their actions last night in thrusting Miss Catherine Johnstone, twenty-three, of Philadelphia, the latter's fiancée, and Miss Elizabeth M. Price, eighteen, prominent Washington society subcommittee, from the sedan automobile in which they were riding, while they themselves were trapped in the wreckage of the car.

The tragedy was enacted in a matter of seconds. The last acts of the two men were to throw the girls out of the car as it was being crushed by the electric train. Wray, who was driving, realized that an accident was unavoidable, he yelled to his companion, "Get out of the car!" and then hurled the young women from the car.

Wray was a brother of the famed "Lud" Wray, foot ball player extraordinaire, while Brunner was the brother of "Red" Brunner, an all-American gridiron star, who carved a niche in foot ball's hall of fame for himself on the Lafayette and Pennsylvania eleven. In addition, both were star players of no mean ability themselves. The group was en route to a party last night given by the Woodbury Country Club, in honor of his daughter, Miss Catherine Starr.

Miss Price was a daughter of the famed "Lud" Wray, foot ball player extraordinaire, while Brunner was the brother of "Red" Brunner, an all-American gridiron star, who carved a niche in foot ball's hall of fame for himself on the Lafayette and Pennsylvania eleven. In addition, both were star players of no mean ability themselves. The group was en route to a party last night given by the Woodbury Country Club, in honor of his daughter, Miss Catherine Starr.

## MISS PRICE WELL KNOWN.

Washington Girl in Three Accidents Within a Year.

Miss Elizabeth M. Price is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar A. Price, 1841 Lombard street, and is well known by the younger society set of Washington, although she is a subcommittee.

State troops, on duty here and at their homes, are temporarily under the command of Major R. H. Young of Monroe, who has relieved Col. Louis F. Guerre, granted leave of absence over the week end. Col. Guerre left for New Orleans yesterday, but will return next week to resume his command.

State officials were busily engaged today in whipping into shape the mass of evidence to be presented at the opening hearing, one week from today.

The state will lay its cards upon the table when the hearing begins, said one of the attorneys, who will accompany Miss Price to the hearing. "The state's case," he said, "is that any grand jury can refuse to indict."

## BANDITS GET \$20,000.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, December 30.—Armed bandits this morning held up the paymaster of the Perry Cap and Screw Company and exacted the \$20,000 weekly pay roll. The robbers entered the offices of the company with pistols drawn. The paymaster, just returned from a bank with the money, and heavily guarded by an armed escort, was caught off his guard by the sudden raid.

## SEVEN INDICTED IN \$1,000,000 WAR CONTRACT FRAUDS

## Benedict Crowell, Assistant War Secretary Under Wilson, Among Named.

## CONTRACTORS FAVORED ON ARMY CAMPS, CHARGE

Starrett, Tuttle, Lundoff, Foster, MacGibbons and Mears, Defendants.

Seven men are charged with conspiracy to defraud the United States in connection with the letting of contracts for Army cantonment buildings returned today by the special war frauds grand jury. It is alleged that through them \$11,000,000 was received by favored contractors.

Those accused are Benedict Crowell, assistant Secretary of War in President Wilson's administration and president of the construction firm of Crowell-Lundoff-Little Company; William A. Starrett, an engineer and architect of the firm of Starrett and Van Vleck; Morton C. Tuttle, general manager of the Averhart Construction Company and acting chairman of the emergency construction committee of the War Department.

Clemens W. Lundoff, vice president and general manager of the Crowell-Lundoff-Little Co. and general manager of the Cleveland Construction company, also a chairman of the emergency construction committee; Clair Foster, formerly associated with the Starrett-Lundoff-Little Company, and the George A. Fuller Company and then holding the rank of major, Engineer Corps, United States Army; John H. McGibbons, representative of a bonding company, and who was associated with the emergency construction committee; and James A. Mears, general manager of Fred T. Ley & Co. and secretary of the emergency construction committee.

Contractors Recommended. It is alleged as one of the overt acts of the supposed conspiracy that in Washington on Armistice day, November 11, 1918, and thereafter up to July 1, 1919, the defendants recommended contractors for and procured the United States to be obligated for extensive new war and military construction in excess of \$80,000,000. Of this amount, it is said, more than \$11,000,000 went to contractors selected by the defendants.

The indictment charges that the accused conspired to defraud the United States by the letting of their past and future contracts with the government to secure control of the administration of the immense emergency construction program of the United States during the war, including the selection of contractors and the letting of contracts for the construction of the sixteen National Army cantonment buildings, and for the construction of terminals, warehouses and fortifications.

It is alleged that some of the defendants, in furtherance of the alleged conspiracy, procured appointments as members of the emergency construction committee, and through deceitful and fraudulent means, obtained positions of trust and responsibility in the construction of the emergency program of the United States during the war, including the selection of contractors and the letting of contracts for the construction of the sixteen National Army cantonment buildings, and for the construction of terminals, warehouses and fortifications.

Ultimate and unjustifiable financial loss to the United States, it is alleged, during the year 1917, the indictment charges, was caused by the defendants, fraudulently and in disregard of the interests of the government, hindering the construction of the emergency program of the United States during the war, including the selection of contractors and the letting of contracts for the construction of the sixteen National Army cantonment buildings, and for the construction of terminals, warehouses and fortifications.

The defendants are also alleged to have disregarded an act of Congress dated May 12, 1917, forbidding any building or military post without the approval of the Secretary of War, and it is alleged the accused expended expenditures running into millions of dollars without the approval of the Secretary of War.

Competition Abolished. During April and May, 1917, the indictment charges, the defendants induced the responsible officers of the government to reject the long-established system of letting work under competitive bids under contract, which adequately safeguarded the government against excessive expenditures, it is charged, to adopt a wide-open cost-plus system, which was largely a device to enable the defendants to obtain enormous profits.

The alleged conspirators, it is claimed, refused to consider various offers made by reliable contractors to build cantonment buildings at a cost of less than the scale of fee and compensation procured by the alleged conspirators to be written.

## \$6,500,000 REQUESTED FOR WORK ON WARSHIPS

A supplemental appropriation of \$6,500,000 for modernization of battleships was recommended by Congress today by President Harding, who transmitted a letter from Secretary Denby, declaring that as a result of the arms conference decisions the nation must adopt a new policy regarding its fleet. It is maintained that a standard of efficiency comparable to that of similar vessels of foreign powers.